

## LOW-POWER HAND-HELD TRANSACTION DEVICE

### RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S.  
 application Serial No. 09/064,395, filed April 22, 1998, <sup>now US 6,230,370</sup> allowed, which is a  
 continuation-in-part application of U.S. application Serial No. 8/657,892 filed  
 June 7, 1996, issued November 7, 2000, Pat. No. 6,144,848, which is a  
 continuation-in-part of U.S. applications Serial Nos. 08/482,261, <sup>now 6,666,874</sup> 08/485,083 <sup>now abandoned</sup> and  
 08/480,614, <sup>now US 5,696,874</sup> all filed June 7, 1995.

### TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates to hand-held telecommunications devices and,  
 in particular, to an electronic hand-held device for inputting and sending requests  
 and for receiving and outputting responses to the requests.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The acquisition of goods and services by placing orders with  
 retailers and distributors is a vital component of modern commerce. Several  
 different technologies for placing and receiving commercial orders currently  
 account for the bulk of commercial order entry. Probably the most familiar and  
 natural method of order entry is that of personal travel to a retail supplier for a  
 face-to-face transaction paid for either in cash, by check, by credit card, or by an  
 electronic transfer of funds. While such face-to-face transactions allow a purchaser  
 to thoroughly inspect the goods and services that are being purchased, and while  
 such transactions are relatively secure for both the purchaser and the retailer,  
 especially when paid for in cash, face-to-face transactions are extremely inefficient  
 in time and in communications costs. A purchaser generally travels to the retailer's  
 place of business by car or by public transportation at a relatively high cost in time  
 and energy, often incurring significant risks in personal safety. While a cash  
 transaction is relatively secure, the process of bringing the cash to the retailer's  
 place of business and of transporting purchased goods back to their place of use or

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